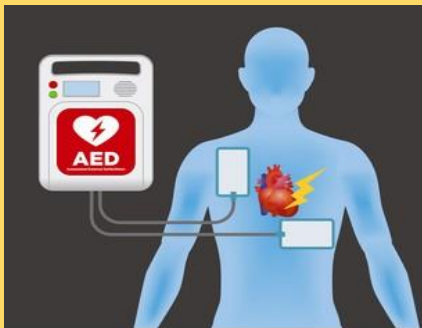




Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Fact Sheet

- AED's are very accurate and easy to use.
- Good Samaritan Law states, "Any person who, in good faith and not for compensation, renders emergency care or treatment by the use of an AED at the scene of an emergency is not liable."
- All purchased AEDs must be FDA approved.
- All AED's are required, by law, to be registered with the Local EMS Agency.
- At least once a year a building owner should notify tenants of placement of an AED and provide information about who to contact if they want to volunteer to take CPR and AED training.



What is an AED? An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is a lightweight, electronic portable device that can check for an abnormal heart rhythm and, if needed, deliver an electric shock through the chest to the heart. The shock can potentially stop an irregular heartbeat (arrhythmia) and allow a normal rhythm to resume following sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). AEDs increase the chance of surviving a SCA by 7 - 10%.

Who can use an AEDs? Anyone trained in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) can use an AED. Formal training is not required, however, the American Heart Association recommends an individual be trained in both.

Can anyone purchase an AED? The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved guidelines for manufacturing and selling AEDs. In some cases, the FDA may require a physician's prescription.

Where should AEDs be placed? All first-response vehicles should have an AED. This includes ambulances, fire engines and law enforcement vehicles. AEDs should also be placed in all health studios, fitness centers, public swimming pools, certain commuter rails, buildings with an occupancy of 200 or more, schools that have athletic programs and, if the board of a school district requires a health education class in order to graduate high school. Instructions for using an AED should be placed next to the device and be typed in 14 point.

Are there specific AED maintenance guidelines? AEDs should be maintained according to manufacturer's guidelines and tested after each use and biannually.

Emergency Medical Services Authority

<https://ems.ca.gov/aed/>

Food and Drug Administration

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/cardiovascular-devices/automated-external-defibrillators-aeds>

American Heart Association

<https://www.heart.org/-/media/Files/Health-Topics/Answers-by-Heart/What-is-an-AED.pdf>